



## DIARY DATES

NOVEMBER 2021

# Fortnightly Feature

## Mrs Agnew's 4/5 Class Poetry

The Year 4/5 Class have completed a task to come up with a school anthem. They had to work with a partner and come up with something original and creative.

Below are a few of the poems.

**11th - Remembrance Day**  
**15th - High Ropes Course (Yr10 Outdoor Ed)**  
**17th - Combined Schools Music Concert**  
**18th - Primary Performance 'Pirates of The Curry Bean'**  
**25th - Presentation Night**  
**26th - Student Free Day**

**On the 11th hour  
 Of the 11th day  
 Of the 11th month**

**We will remember them**

**LEST WE FORGET**

**11 NOVEMBER**



Our School is the Best

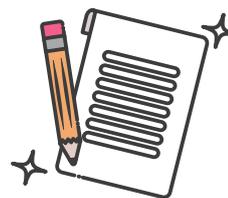
We have a nature play,  
 We will never rest,  
 Our School has a library,  
 MDS the Best!

We used to have two schools,  
 And now we're one big nest,  
 Primary to high school,  
 MDS the Best!

We have a school sports day,  
 We're ready for the test,  
 By deeds and not words,  
 MDS the Best!

Our teachers are amazing,  
 We are very blessed,  
 Our school goes to twelve,  
 MDS the Best!

By Maddisyn Shipp and  
 Joshua Cook



MDS is the Best

Big nature play, big oval,  
 We welcome our guests,  
 Big library and open space,  
 MDS is the Best!

We once were two now we're one,  
 MPS and MHS,  
 In 1990 merged together,  
 MDS is the Best!

Friendly teachers and staff,  
 We're never depressed,  
 By deeds not words,  
 MDS is the Best!

We do great in interschool,  
 Even though it's a test,  
 We show respect to others,  
 MDS is the best!

By Charlie Borgmeyer and  
 Saxon Williams

MDS Rules

With big lush ovals,  
 Tom with his tools,  
 With that nature play made,  
 MDS School Rules!

In 1878 was when we began,  
 In the 90's two schools,  
 Joined and became one  
 MDS School Rules!

With the colour run fun,  
 We all sparkle like jewels,  
 We like our Sports Day,  
 MDS School Rules!

Our year twelves are top-notch,  
 Our brains are fuels,  
 For the next generation,  
 MDS School Rules!

By Angus Coote and Lowan Coe

# FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK



## A MESSAGE FROM ALI

I was reminded by a very clever Year 11 at the crossing on Monday morning – there's a reason the season we are in is called Spring! The weather has certainly been bouncing around quite a bit in recent weeks.

Thank you for the pitying looks from parents in warm cars as you passed the crossing this morning – that wind was biting!

The school term is over half way concluded, and there is plenty happening in each of the sub-schools. The Primary team are polishing their classes' performances for the 'Pirates of the Curry Bean' which will be performed next Thursday night in the school gym. Please note that we have restricted numbers allowed in the audience. Primary families will have received a note providing details as to how to secure a seat. The children are very much looking forward to performing and I can't wait to see it all unfold.

Reading has remained a focus for our primary children and I am delighted that my swamp has only one lonely crocodile left in it after many milestones have been reached in recent weeks. Congratulations to the following who have recently received crocodiles (cleverly disguised as pencils): Harper, Amelia C, Josie, Rory B, Judd, Eddie, Isabella, Bella, Lachlan L, Rubi H, Bailey D, Will Mc, Rube, Archie, Finn, Angus C, Josh C, Annabelle, Brianna, Ellie, Alexis, Lowan, Saxon W, Sam M. Thankfully, a secret transport from the NT will replenish the swamp for the next group of readers who reach 100, 200 or even 300 reading nights!



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'Never stop Learning,  
Because life never stops teaching!'

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# FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK



A MESSAGE FROM ALI



We are delighted with the progress being made by our Middle School readers and have enjoyed witnessing their delight as they achieve progress in their Probe reading comprehension assessments. To have our students taking ownership of their learning and taking pride in their achievements when they progress through the levels is a real highlight for our staff. Reading is such a vital skill for learning and life, and equipping our students with a range of strategies to get the most from their reading is one of our main improvement goals.

In the Senior School, it is 'all systems go' as students embark on final assessment tasks to conclude their learning programs. Please read Glen's report carefully to ensure you know what is planned for the senior cohort, particularly around requirements for Week 7 transition activities and the final two weeks of the year when students are able to undertake Work Experience if they have satisfactorily completed all subject requirements.

Our annual Presentation Night will look very different again this year. We are preparing for an invitation only event to be held in the school's newly refurbished gym on Thursday November 25th. This will allow us to work within Covid Safe protocols, while still acknowledging the achievements of our students. Invitations will be coming home shortly and we do ask that you RSVP as requested so that we can fulfil our Covid safe obligations.

Plans for 2022 continue apace, with our timetable almost complete and negotiations around staffing taking place. Once again I seek your support - if you know that your child will not be at MDS next year, please let us know urgently. Small changes in student numbers at any year level can have a large impact on class configurations and subject viability so we appreciate timely notice of any changes to enrolments.

On Friday November 26th we have a Student Free Day at MDS. If you haven't already, please mark this date in your calendar now.

Have a great weekend.

Ali

## First Nations BBQ

Nha marni,

On the evening of Tuesday the 9th of November the First Nation's families and students of MDS met for an end of year BBQ. It was an opportunity for staff, students and families to meet to discuss what we would like to see achieved in 2022 for cultural events such as Reconciliation Week and Naidoc Week. It was also an opportunity to just wind down and have a casual chat with friends and family. The evening was well supported by the school community with over 60 people attending. The evening started off with Mr Buckley presenting an Acknowledgement of Country, games such as cricket and kicking the footy followed, before dinner was served. Dinner was a combined affair thanks to Kay Lawrence and her team (Tamiya, Nasrin, Anita, Milly, Carol, Mr Cameron and Sophie) making kangaroo tail and damper, Mr Buckley's chicken curries, and Mrs Campion and Ms Mayadunne (photographer) cooking the BBQ. There were some great cricket skills shown from Ms Bogle and Mr Cook.

Highlights of the night from some of the students included:

- Archie, Shanaid and Brianna enjoyed playing cricket
- Nasrin and Tamiya appreciated spending time with family;
- Indi and Ava thought it was a great atmosphere because everyone was included;
- William enjoyed the nature play with the other kids;
- Myles loved making sausage constructions;
- Evie loved the kangaroo tail;
- Brianna, Ava, Jake, Nasrin and Logan loved the butter chicken.



It was a great night and was well supported by the school community. There will be a similar event next year. Thanks to everyone for their support.

Marni bammani/Thanks

David Buckley

**Nhibu Wambana Bindira/AET @ MDS**



## A note from the Business Manager, Zoe

### Colour Run 2021

By now your money will have been donated into your profiles! If you have raised over \$10, it's time to order your prizes!

Simply log into your profile page, click Order Prizes and choose the prize you want. You have until Monday 15th to order prizes. It is out of my control if you don't order prizes before this date unfortunately, please get your order in ASAP!

PLEASE NOTE: If you selected a Goal Prize when you first created your profile, this will NOT be ordered for you, you'll need to log in and actually place a prize order.

Once you've done that, you're finished! Now it's time to wait until our big event on the 9th of December, YAY!



### Canteen Closure

Please note the canteen will be closed on November 17th. You will not be able to order any lunches.

Subway Day instead! Thank you to those that ordered Subway. This is our first Subway experience at MDS, so we will see how it goes for our school.

We are all very excited here!

Not having control of the money was a little unnerving.

I'm sure it's going to be great though.

### Finances

As we approach the end of the school financial year, please attend to any outstanding debts ASAP.

Please come in and speak to me and we can arrange a payment plan if needed. There aren't too many weeks left for Term 4, so I will need you to come in and arrange this as soon as you can.

Otherwise please pay in person at the finance office or pay via the QKR! app or Direct Deposit into our bank account

Minlaton District School

BSB: 015642

ACC: 217331388

My email is [zoe.weir991@schools.sa.edu.au](mailto:zoe.weir991@schools.sa.edu.au) to send any remittances or ask any questions.

Thank you  
Zoe



## Senior School News

By the time that you are reading this, all of our Year 12 student will have completed their studies and be on the pathway to life beyond MDS. Well done folks and all the best.

Year 10 & 11 students will be undertaking final semester two assessments up until early week 7 of this term, with all assessment tasks required to be submitted no later than 3pm Tuesday the 22nd of November. It is a timely reminder for them that the successful completion of subjects currently being studied provides a solid foundation for future learning.

In line with MDS policy students are expected to achieve at or above the C standard across most of the curriculum areas to gain promotion to the next year level. The educational needs of students not achieving at this standard may be best served through repeating a year level, subject or number of subjects. In the case of compulsory SACE subjects, this has a direct impact on the student's chances of completing SACE. Therefore, should a student not satisfactorily complete their course requirements in any senior subject, they will be ineligible for work experience or exemptions and must attend school between 29/11/21 and 10/12/21. During this fortnight, they will be provided with the opportunity to successfully complete these subjects in order to move up to the next year level. Contact has been made with parents and students who have recently been identified as at risk.

A transition program will operate for all 2022 year 10, 11 and 12 students during Week 7. The aim of the program is to provide students with course requirements and expectations, experience a snapshot of what the next year level holds, potentially reflect on subject choices, undertake any administrative requirements and build the requisite skills for success in the next year. It is a compulsory activity and an outline will be provided to parents via their students early next week.

In addition, during that week, a work experience preparation course will be run online for all students undertaking a placement at the end of the term. This is a compulsory DfE requirement and students will not be able to undertake work experience without this course being successfully completed.

The final formal day of senior school programs for 2021 is Thursday 25th November.

Once again if you have any questions about Senior School related matters, don't hesitate to call me here at school or send an email to: [glen.white872@schools.sa.edu.au](mailto:glen.white872@schools.sa.edu.au)

Glen White  
**Senior School Coordinator**

## Middle School News

Staff have recently completed a mid-term progress report for students to identify current academic progress. The reports can be accessed by students on Daymap in the records section and via the parent portal. The reports are in the form of a traffic light system with green reflecting that the child is progressing well and is currently performing at standard or above. Orange shows that your child's learning is currently below standard and there are concerns about their progress, with red identifying that your child's learning is not yet at standard. If you do not have access to the parent portal yet, please get in contact with the school and we can help you through the registration process so you can view the reports. The document also provides an update on current attendance rates. The DfE has a goal of 95% attendance, so it would be great to see as many students as possible above this level.

Term 4 Personal Interest subjects are progressing well with a variety of offerings again this term. Subjects this term include Team and Strategy Games, Wacky Fashion Art, STEM and Toys 'R' Us. The Team and Strategy Games class have been participating in a variety of sports including basketball, European handball, tchoukball, futsal and table tennis. The Sport Education model is being used with students taking on responsibilities in their class to organise their own teams, run fitness and skills sessions, umpire and score matches and organise the tournament. A grand final event will be held later in the term. The Wacky Fashion Art class have investigated female and male fashion design in the Elizabethan and Regency Eras. Students were given specific materials to critically think about and design with, whilst learning about basic hand sewing. The photos show examples of the jewellery designs created using polymer clay and glass beads.



## Middle School News

Once again, in recent weeks we have been dealing with issues from outside of school that are brought into the school setting. These are all related to technology use with a variety of different social network platforms. We ask that parents monitor online usage of their child to ensure they are using these in a safe manner. Social media is a great way to stay connected with family and friends but there are a number of possible dangers involved for students and their online usage. Being aware of what your child is doing online is important. The Australian Government eSafety website has some excellent information about online activities and the possible dangers involved. Information can be accessed at <https://www.esafety.gov.au/> for both parents and students.

**Top 5 online safety tips for kids**

- 1** Set up your device to protect your information.
- 2** Explore safely & tell an adult if you see anything online that makes you feel yuck.
- 3** Limit who can contact you when you're playing games.
- 4** Stop all contact with anyone online who asks you to do anything you don't want to do. Report and block them.
- 5** Ask for help if anything online is bothering you.

eSafetyKids | [esafety.gov.au/kids](https://www.esafety.gov.au/kids)

**E-SAFETY**  
**Tips to help protect your child online**

- BUILD TRUST AROUND TECHNOLOGY**  
Keep communication open and supportive so your child knows they can come to you if something goes wrong or does not feel right online.
- SET TIME LIMITS**  
Balance time spent in front of screens with offline activities - a family technology plan can help you to manage expectations around where and when technology use is allowed.
- BUILD GOOD HABITS**  
Help your child to develop digital intelligence and social and emotional skills - such as respect, empathy, critical thinking, responsible behaviour and resilience - and practice being good online citizens.
- CHECK PRIVACY SETTINGS**  
On the games and apps your child is using make sure their profiles are turned on to the strictest privacy setting. Restrict who can contact your child or ask them to check in with you before accepting new friends.
- CO-VIEW AND CO-PLAY**  
Play with your child online. This will help you better understand what they are doing and why they enjoy an app, game or website, as well as providing a great opportunity to start conversations about online safety.
- EMPOWER YOUR CHILD**  
Whenever possible, help your child make wise decisions for themselves rather than telling them what to do. Try to provide them with strategies for dealing with negative online experiences that will build their confidence and resilience.

For more information visit: [www.esafety.gov.au](https://www.esafety.gov.au)

Please get in contact with us if you have any questions/concerns/issues with anything throughout the year. Our email addresses are [Josh.Coombe430@schools.sa.edu.au](mailto:Josh.Coombe430@schools.sa.edu.au) and [Craig.Fitzgerald239@schools.sa.edu.au](mailto:Craig.Fitzgerald239@schools.sa.edu.au)

Josh Coombe and Craig Fitzgerald  
**Middle School Coordinators**



## Primary School News

### **Musical**

Letters have been sent home this week with some information about how to obtain tickets for the musical. We have limited seating due to COVID so please read the note carefully and return the tear-off slip to school by next Monday, the 15th of November.

### **Reading**

Reading continues to be a very important everyday feature of our students' education. Teachers ensure that children spend time reading and working on their understanding of texts. Home reading allows students to have extra time to refine and develop their reading fluency and reading stamina. Staff would like to encourage parents to listen to the younger children read at home every evening. The older children can read to themselves for between 15 and 20 minutes as a part of their homework. Our aim is for children to develop a love of reading where they choose to read in their leisure time. Reading, along with work ethic, are two crucial factors in student educational success.

### **Footlight Dance**

Students will be participating in Footlight Dance lessons from the 30th of November to the 2nd of December. We are very pleased to have Footlight Dance take the lessons once again this year. The children will work on a learning a variety of dance routines and styles. Rural and Isolated Funding (RIF) will be used to finance the lessons.

### **Transition Lessons**

On the 3rd of December the primary students will have two transition lessons in the classes they will have next year. This gives teachers and children a chance to find their feet in a new class and learn some expectations from the teachers. It also takes away the anxiety of starting in a new class at the beginning of the year.

Barb Agnew

**Primary Coordinator**



## Sport News

### Crows Cup Football

In Week 3, twelve enthusiastic Year 6 and 7 girls journeyed to Maitland for this year's instalment of the Crows Cup. Organised by the SANFL and Adelaide Crows, the event encourages girls from all over the Yorke Peninsula to participate in Australian Rules football in a competitive but fun 9-a-side format.

We were represented by Keely Wildash, Gabrielle Hickman, Rose Pisani, Charlotte Burke, Maggie Walsh, Kitty Wilson, Mia Warrior, Alice Polkinghorne, Amber Borgmeyer, Matilda Cook, Anais Glazbrook and Khiana Gates.

The team was highly competitive all day to finish the day in fifth position out of eight teams. Wins ensued over Maitland Lutheran B and Harvest Christian College in the minor rounds and then the team defeated Harvest once again in the fifth-place playoff. Narrow losses to Moonta Area School and Central Yorke/Ardrossan didn't detract from the competitiveness of the team. The girls did receive a football lesson from the champions of the day, Maitland Lutheran A.

There were a plethora of individual highlights. Our SAPSASA champion Keely was our captain, her immaculate skills on show throughout the day. Our tall timber, Gabrielle and Rose, imposed themselves in every match with their attack on the ball and their ability to move into space. Kitty was a tackling machine, often leaping up to bring down players stronger and taller than her. Mia, Anais and Amber looked more comfortable and confident as the day progressed. Charlotte was the queen of second and third efforts with a strong attack on the ball. She also conjured a goal that rivalled some of the best from Eddie Betts. Matilda channelled her accomplished father with some impressive ruck work. Maggie starred with her booming long kicks, hardness around the ball and booting three goals in the first half of the playoff match. Khiana and Alice didn't take a backward step and would often burst their way through packs at will.

#### Scores from the day:

Central Yorke/Ardrossan 4.2 d Minlaton DS 3.3

Minlaton District School 3.1 d Maitland Lutheran B 2.0

Moonta AS 2.4 d Minlaton DS 2.1

Maitland Lutheran A 7.1 d Minlaton DS 1.2

Minlaton DS 6.3 d Harvest Christian School 4.3

5th place playoff - Minlaton DS 5.4 d Harvest Christian School 2.0



#### Student comments:

"The Crows Cup football was very enjoyable because it was something new to me and a lot of other girls." - Charlotte

"It was a fantastic day held at Maitland with different teams coming along. I enjoyed playing the different teams (especially MLS). It was brilliant to see so many girls out there and how all of the girls from our school wanted to participate." - Keely

"The Crows Cup was an astonishing day out. Playing each game felt like I was in the AFL! The best highlight was when we played Maitland Lutheran, particularly when Keely and Lily (the two sisters) defended each other. They looked like they both enjoyed it." - Khiana

Josh Coombe

**SAPSASA Coordinator**

## CROWS CUP GIRLS TEAM



## SAPSASA CRICKET CARNIVAL JAMES COOK



### SAPSASA Cricket State Carnival

Last week James Cook was the sole MDS representative in the SYP SAPSASA cricket team that competed in the State Carnival. He was a valuable contributor in the SYP team that finished runner-up for the week in Division 3 - an outstanding achievement!

Dominant victories over Upper South East and Southern Fleurieu to commence the week put the SYP crew in a tantalising position going into the final minor round match. In a rain-affected contest, Southern Valley narrowly overshadowed SYP in a pulsating match. However, Southern Valley's percentage couldn't match SYP's in the preliminary rounds, ensuring a place in the Grand Final for SYP against the best placed team in the other pool of Division 3 - Mid North. Chasing 147 to triumph, the SYP boys fell agonisingly short by 22 runs, therefore completing the week in the runner-up position.

James' was impressive with bat and ball for the Carnival, scoring 50 runs from limited opportunities and only being dismissed once. Despite not taking a wicket for the week, James was economical with the ball in the eleven overs he delivered.

Congratulations to James, his team and coach Jason Clifford on their successful week!

Josh Coombe  
**SAPSASA Coordinator**

# Connect, Coach and Take Charge

## What to do and how to help ... for "big feelings" kids who get frustrated, non-co-operative and distressed

### Parents/carers: does any of this sound familiar?

- Your child has difficulty managing frustration and anger
- Finds it hard to organise themselves, and follow routines
- Finds it hard to listen and follow instructions
- Often gets very upset, worried or distressed
- You sometimes feel worried or frustrated with your child and don't know what to do next
- It feels like things which "work" for other children don't "work" for your kids

**Dates:** 6 consecutive Thursday evenings from 21 October 2021 until 25 November 2021

**Time:** 7.00pm – 9.00pm

**Place:** Online via Zoom

**Cost:** Free

**Facilitators:** Penny Sih and Kate Rooney

(Places limited and full 6-week commitment required. Bookings only confirmed on completion of questionnaires).

**Please call: 8357 1711**

### We can help!

**Connect, Coach and Take Charge** is a 6 week course to help you learn:

- Why children behave in tricky ways
- How to reconnect with your child (and feel more positive about them)
- How to coach your child & take charge - so they can manage emotions, follow instructions and act calmly
- How to identify your values as a family
- How to be kind and compassionate to yourself
- How to manage difficult situations (e.g. bedtimes, mornings, sibling arguments, homework, screen time rules)

You will get **practical ideas and suggestions** you can use at home to help make life calmer, easier and happier for everyone.

**Connect, Coach and Take Charge** is facilitated by two of our child psychologists, both of whom have worked with "tricky kids" and their families for many years.



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An Australian Government Initiative



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**PSYCHOLOGY AND EDUCATION**  
Helping kids & teens learn life skills & manage tough times  
[www.developingminds.net.au](http://www.developingminds.net.au)

For information about our counselling services go to:  
[www.developingminds.net.au](http://www.developingminds.net.au)

For information about our online supports go to:  
[www.calmkidcentral.com](http://www.calmkidcentral.com)



Everybody deserves to smile this Christmas

#RAYWHITE

Help put a smile on the face of people who would otherwise go without this Christmas by donating an **UNWRAPPED** gift under our giving tree.

Our special giving tree is located inside our office and we are collecting gifts from now until 17th December 2021.

All gifts donated will be given to local families in need.



1 Stansbury Road, YORKETOWN

